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BOOK NOTES.

CESARE LOMBROSO's studies of abnormal anthropology under modern social conditions are always full of interest and suggestion to the sociologist, the statistician, the lawyer and the legislator ; but, unfortunately, they are disappointing in methods and results. Professor Lombroso is too arbitrary in his distinctions to be a sound reasoner, and in his investigations the personal equation is so large and so uncertain that his readers can feel little confidence in his statistical tables. These faults are glaring in his new work on *The Man of Genius* (Scribners), in which genius is regarded as a form of insanity. The idea is not new, and it may be that insanity is more closely related to genius than to commonplace talent ; but the problem is one that will have to be studied by more vigorous methods and with a more level-headed judgment than Professor Lombroso brings to bear. He does not tell us what he means by insanity, and his list of men of genius is a most astonishing one, whether judged by the names it omits or those it includes. His book, nevertheless, contains such a mass of material and clever hypothesis that it will probably provoke other studies in the same field, and will be in many ways useful to the discriminating student.

The report of the commissioners appointed in 1890 to inquire into the prison and reformatory system of Ontario (Toronto, Warwick & Sons) is a valuable collection and review of facts, although it contains little of fact, theory or recommendation that is altogether new to the students of penology. Its merits are due to the thoroughness with which the commissioners pursued their investigations, the great number of specific questions asked and answered, the intelligent examination and comparison of the more or less advanced penological systems on trial in various states of the United States, and the comprehensive review that the commissioners make of the whole subject of vice and crime as related to social conditions, education and punishment. All this matter has been put together so well that, besides being an account of crime and prison methods in Ontario in particular, the volume is a fairly complete handbook of penology in general. The commissioners attach comparatively little importance to illiteracy and poverty as causes of crime, and place first among evil conditions the want of proper parental control. All recent observations of criminal tendencies in our own country confirm the soundness of this judgment.

In their recommendations, accordingly, the commissioners go to the root of the matter by suggesting legislation to keep children out of the streets at night, to give the authorities power to admonish parents, to prevent the arrest of children except in extreme cases where parental control cannot be brought to bear, to provide public playgrounds under responsible moral supervision, and to extend industrial training. Other valuable recommendations relate to the classification of prisoners; the treatment of common drunkards, for whom an industrial reformatory is suggested; the punishment of tramps by severe labor; and to the difficult problem of prison labor.

Under the title, *Seul de son Siècle* (Guillaumin et Cie), Viscount Combes de Lestrade has given to his countrymen an excellent translation of Mr. Edward Bellamy's *Looking Backward*, with critical comments appended to each chapter. These have been written with a serious purpose, for Viscount de Lestrade says in his preface that he regards Mr. Bellamy's romance as the most dangerous of all the communistic books that have ever come under his eyes. Not that there is anything new in the ideas, which are but "un amalgame des théories de Fourier, de celles de Proudhon et de celles de Marx," but because Mr. Bellamy has given to them "une forme facile, agréable." The criticisms are keen and usually sound, but to Christian socialism the weak objection is made that moral things are eternal while material things are ever changing, and that Christianity may therefore claim obedience as a religion but must not set itself up as a social constitution. The implied notion of man as a stationary soul in a progressive body was once "orthodox" political economy, unfortunately, but it turns Christianity upside down in a way that would have made St. Paul dizzy, and scientific political economy has no further use for it. A true criticism of Christian socialism must show that the scheme is bad morals as well as bad economics.

Miss Beatrice Potter has made a useful contribution to social economic literature in her history of *The Co-operative Movement in Great Britain* (Swan Sonnenschein & Co.). The story of the origin and growth of co-operation is told in a straightforward way, the merits and shortcomings of the system as now organized are impartially pointed out and the latest statistics are presented in tables and maps. The appendix contains also a bibliography, including Parliamentary reports. Miss Potter finds that the institution of co-operation, important as it has become, is far enough from realizing the ideal of its founders, which was, in brief, the elimination of profit and the substitution of a salaried official for the profit-maker. Entirely successful in all that pertains to the first point, co-operation has not yet demonstrated that individual profit-making is an unnecessary method of adjusting supply to demand. But

Miss Potter has a strong faith that, through the concurrent action of co-operative organization in the sphere of consumption, and a federation of trade unions in the domain of production, supplemented by state action in education, land ownership and the administration of monopolies, industrial democracy can be established.

M. A. Naquet's compilation of socialism appeared so valuable to one of the English socialists, Mr. William Heaford, that he has translated it under the title: *Collectivism and the Socialism of the Liberal School* (Swan Sonnenschein, 1891). The praise of the work by the translator seems somewhat exaggerated, but the little book is certainly an animated and concise summary of the chief objections to the socialist panaceas. The author is not so extreme as many of his countrymen, and thinks the solution of the social question may be found in the education of the laborer and the development of trades unions, and in carrying out the principle that "collective action may and should be exercised on all occasions when the transference of a function from the individual to society has the effect, not of diminishing individual liberty, but of protecting, guaranteeing and developing that same liberty." He is also willing that the state should prevent, by taxation, the formation of too great individual fortunes,—a plan that will hopelessly discredit him with other opponents of socialism.

Ten years after its original publication Professor Hugo Eisenhart's *Geschichte der Nationaloekonomie* appears in a second edition (Jena, Fischer, 1891). At the time of its first appearance perhaps on the whole the most satisfactory general history of political economy, it has to-day been somewhat superseded by later works. The new edition contains a fuller discussion of Malthus and the poor-laws and a somewhat changed interpretation of Rodbertus. As before, the author devotes too much space to Carey and gives the same apotheosis of the "Aera Bismarck," while we search in vain for any account of the recent reaction in economics. A new edition should be up to the times.

The practical value of Smart's *Introduction to the Theory of Value* (Macmillan) is not measured by its size (88 pp.). It is a brief statement of the laws of value, as demonstrated largely by the Austrian economists; but it is written by a man of independent thought and of familiarity with the facts of business life. A knowledge of recent Austrian studies is essential to an understanding of the evolution of economic theory as such; and a knowledge of what are now the known laws of value is of greater importance as a preparation for scientific work. In eighty-eight pages the more essential laws of value are clearly and attractively stated. The relation that subjective measurements of utility sustain to the market prices of goods is not, indeed, exhaustively treated; in the entire literature of the subject the laws of value have not yet

been completely stated ; but enough is given in this volume to prepare a student for fruitful work.

The recent expiration of the commercial treaties of several European states has led to a flood of literature on the general topic. The most elaborate single work is the huge volume of Matlekovits, *Die Zollpolitik der Oesterreichisch-Ungarischen Monarchie und des Deutschen Reiches seit 1868* (Duncker und Humblot, 1891). The book of almost one thousand pages not only contains an exhaustive history of all the tariffs and commercial treaties of both Austria-Hungary and Germany down to the most recent laws, but it attempts to discuss the effects of customs duties in general and the particular economic results of the tariff policy of the two countries. Mr. Matlekovits is an ardent free trader, although he does not approve all the arguments sometimes employed by extremists. He is not quite sure as to the incidence of import duties, and does not entirely share the opinion of those who believe that the consumer bears the whole burden. But he thinks that protection does not protect and that the examples of the United States and Russia are of no value to continental Europe. The book is interesting mainly for its detailed account of the development of the chief industries and for the wealth of statistical information which it contains. It closes with a glowing appeal for the customs union between Germany and Austria.

Under the direction of Professor Cohn of Goettingen, Mr. Carl Coping Plehn, an American student, has published his doctor's dissertation on *Das Kreditwesen der Staaten und Städte der Nordamerikanischen Union* (Jena, Gustav Fischer, 1891). Although it contains nothing especially new to the student of public finance, the monograph is a meritorious collection of the facts and figures of local indebtedness during this century. The chapter on colonial credit conditions is based on the usual secondary authorities, but is not entirely satisfactory ; and much of the early nineteenth century history might be amplified with advantage. In the theoretical discussion the author generally follows Adams's *Public Debts*. The monograph is a very convenient summary and deserves translation into English.

An elementary and clear account of the way in which the federal government levies and collects its revenue is given in William E. Burke's *Federal Finance* (Chicago, F. G. Shulte & Co., 1891). The preliminary chapter on "Taxation, Ancient and Modern," might better have been omitted ; but the description of the administrative methods of our customs and internal revenue systems is concise and correct. The book is marred by a number of shocking wood-cuts.

In the first volume of the Camden Library, Mr. Hubert Hall, of the Public Record Office, describes *The Antiquities and Curiosities of the Exchequer* (New York, Armstrong, and London, E. Stock, 1891). The

chief authorities on the exchequer have hitherto been the works of Madox and Thomas, and neither of these is likely to be superseded, except for the general reader, by the present volume. Mr. Hall succeeds in telling us some quaint stories connected with early English fiscal history. But the student of public finance will be interested chiefly in the chapters on the chess game and the exchequer problems, where the mediæval methods of budgetary accounting and control are picturesquely related in great detail. As Sir John Lubbock reminds us in the preface, however absurdly archaic the proceedings appear, we must remember that the "tallies" were still used in the English treasury until 1824.

Under the curious title of *The Grasshopper in Lombard Street* (London, 1892), Mr. John Biddulph Martin has published a volume as sumptuous in make-up and appearance as it is interesting and valuable in contents. The "Grasshopper" is the sign of the house of Martins in Lombard Street, the oldest banking firm in London. Mr. Martin traces the origin of the sign to Sir Thomas Gresham, who, as tradition relates, was a castaway infant, discovered by a casual passer-by through the chirping of a grasshopper. Although Mr. Martin is somewhat sceptical as to this, he discusses the honorable history of the firm from his goldsmith ancestors in the sixteenth century down to the present time. The volume is divided into four books, the second of which will be of special interest to the student of early banking and credit operations. Mr. Martin shows how the goldsmith's deposit notes gradually changed into the modern bank note, and that they did not finally disappear until 1843. The whole book is replete with curious learning, and Mr. Martin deserves the thanks of the student as well as of the public for converting what was originally meant to be a family history into a really valuable work for the general reader and the scientist. Among the many appendices, not the least interesting is a reprint of the famous pamphlet, *The Mystery of the New-Fashioned Goldsmiths or Bankers*, originally published in 1676.

"Studies in Comparative Ethnology" is too dignified a subtitle to affix to M. Élie Reclus's volume on *Primitive Folk* in the Contemporary Science Series (Scribners). There is very little in the book to suggest serious study of any kind on the part of its author, unless great industry in getting together from travellers' narratives their most piquant stories of savage life, can be called study. Not but that the book is essentially and in the main a true enough description of the social organization, the beliefs, morals (or immorals) and customs of uncivilized peoples, from the Esquimaux of the extreme north to the Kolarians of Bengal, but it is merely a popular account, written in the lightest vein, and with hardly a touch of serious criticism of alleged fact or of conflicting theories. In these respects it stands in marked

contrast to a book like Dr. Daniel G. Brinton's *Races and Peoples* (N. D. C. Hodges), which also was written as a popular work, but which is at the same time an original and thought-provoking study of the problems of classification, origin, mental power and capacity for improvement.

In *Politics and Property, or Phronocracy* (Putnams), Mr. Slack Worthington sets forth his scheme for mitigating the social discontent and strife that are due to inequalities in economic conditions. The phronocratic ideal requires that taxation be levied on "property accumulation" and so adjusted as to check the concentration of individual wealth; that an educational and property test be imposed on voters; that foreign immigration of "all Caucasian races of self-sustaining capabilities" be encouraged; that the United States be extended to embrace the whole of North America; and that for any enterprise the government should take hold only when individual resources fail, and the general government only when the local authority is incompetent. The author's central idea is cumulative taxation, which he advocates with more vigor than originality. He would limit individual wealth to about \$4,000,000, though this rule is not to apply to corporations. Mr. Worthington's style is popular rather than scientific, and his book is at least interesting.

In his *Public Lands and Agrarian Laws of the Roman Republic* (The Johns Hopkins Press) Professor Stephenson presents a useful and complete sketch of the facts and phases of Roman history indicated by the title. The author claims no original research, but a conscientious use is made of the standard authorities, both ancient and modern; and without any distracting flourish of learning a lucid and straightforward account is given of the causes, character and effects of the recurring agrarian legislation. To the allied social and political phenomena of Roman development just enough attention is given to throw needed light on the main topic. The monograph is to form a chapter in a more extensive work dealing comparatively with recent agrarian movements in England and America.

There have recently been issued a limited number of copies of the *Record of the City of New Amsterdam*, edited by Henry B. Dawson (Morrisania, 1867). The work is a fragment, and bears witness to an attempt made nearly a generation ago to publish a part of the records of the city of New York. The individuals who seem chiefly to have been concerned were Mr. Dawson, who was then editing the *Historical Magazine*, and D. T. Valentine, then clerk of the common council. A beginning was made; Westbrook's translation of the Dutch records being used. Nearly all the ordinances affecting the municipality from 1647 to 1656 were either printed or referred to by title. But O'Callaghan

was at the same time at work upon his translation of the ordinances of New Netherlands from the Dutch records at Albany. This was published in 1868, and forms a pretty complete collection. Mr. Dawson seems at once to have abandoned his enterprise, and the records at the City Hall remain unprinted. Till they are wholly or in part published no satisfactory history of the municipality can be written. It is time for the scholars of the city to bestir themselves in this matter and follow the example of Boston. If the sense of organic life is really growing among us, it should reveal itself in the form of an awakening historic sense. A community which is really self-conscious will show an intelligent interest in its own past.

Mr. Samuel R. Gardiner's industry is further evidenced by the publication of his *Student's History of England* (Longmans, Green & Co.). It is designed for students who already have an elementary knowledge of the subject, but who are not prepared for advanced work. The amount of material included is ample for the purpose, and it is presented in a clear and attractive form. Naturally more space is given to the outline of social development — dress, manners, the arts — than to the growth of the English constitution. In the classification of the subject one novel feature may be particularly commended, and that is the including of the reign of Henry VII with those of the Lancastrian and Yorkish monarchs. This volume is supplied with all necessary genealogical tables. To the student, not the least useful feature of the book will be its numerous illustrations showing the progress of English architecture, changes in costume, development of the manual arts and, when modern times are reached, including excellent portraits of the nation's leaders. The maps which would properly find a place in a text-book have for greater convenience been bound separately. These form an atlas of English history which should be widely used not only in high schools but in colleges and universities.

"Let us now consider the position of Europe in the universe," says M. Ernest Lavisse at the close of his *General View of the Political History of Europe* (Longmans, 1891); and the sentence is characteristic of the book. The author's view is always a broad one, and his philosophy of European history in narrative form is very suggestive. His talent for compressing a movement into a phrase and summing up a period in an adjective enables him to say a good deal in the compass of 170 duodecimo pages, and must have made the work of his translator trebly difficult. Dr. Charles Gross, however, has not merely surmounted the difficulties of a faithful rendering, but has put the *General View* into thoroughly idiomatic and readable English.

Aus der Paulskirche (Götschen'sche Verlagshandlung, Stuttgart, 1892) is the title under which R. R. Schäfer reprints the letters written by

Gustav Rümelin, in the years 1848 and 1849, to the *Schwäbische Merkur*. They are not a mere record of events, but a commentary on the events as they occur, written by a singularly clear-sighted member of the Frankfurt Parliament. They have the interest at once of a contemporaneous document and of prophecy since fulfilled; for Rümelin was one of the most earnest advocates of the "narrower Germany" under a Prussian emperor. He lived to see the programme of his party carried out, even to the alliance between the narrower Germany and Austria. Like most of the old Liberals of 1848, the chancellor of Tübingen University was a hearty admirer of the first chancellor of the German Empire, and once described himself, Schäfer tells us in his introduction, as ἀνὴρ Βισμαρκώτατος.

Bourinot's *Parliamentary Procedure and Practice in Canada* has attained the deserved dignity of a second edition (Montreal, Dawson Brothers, 1892). Revision and enlargement have made the work into a stout volume of 929 pages. A great part of the new matter consists in precedents to bring the various subjects down to the latest times. In an additional chapter at the end of the book the author explains in some detail the conventions and understandings which in the Dominion as in Great Britain play so important a part in the workings of the constitution. An appendix contains a comprehensive compilation of documents and forms essential to a complete understanding of the subject.

Under the title, *Social Statics, abridged and revised* (Appleton), Mr. Herbert Spencer has put together those portions of his original work which are not superseded by the recent volume on *Justice* and which are at the same time useful as supplementary to that volume. Bound together with these extracts is his well-known work on *The Man versus the State*. Despite the fragmentary character which the volume necessarily presents, it very well fulfils the purpose which called it forth. From it may be derived a satisfactory view of Mr. Spencer's first principles of political philosophy, in the form in which his matured judgment has worked them out. It is to this work and to that on *Justice* that his critics must now look for his politics, and the old *Social Statics* will cease to fill the place it has so long occupied as a target for adverse comment. The changes effected by the author's revision of the parts printed are mostly only in style, and *The Man versus the State* is practically unaltered.